

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING**

March 21, 2014
Red Skelton Performing Arts Center
Vincennes, Indiana

Trevor Yager, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Kathy Anderson, Gil Cárdenas, Jon Ford, Pam Hicks, Linda Levell, Allen Platt, Alan Rent, Micah Smith, Sherry Stark, Trevor Yager

Members via teleconference: Karen Ellerbrook, Susan Hardwick, Nancy Stewart

Members absent: Jeff Kirk, Suzie Rentschler

Guests via teleconference: Susan Mendenhall (Regional Arts Partners)

Arts Commission staff present; Michelle Anderson, Kristina Davis, Sarah Fronczek, Dennis Hardin, Becca Hopson, Lewis Ricci, Paige Sharp, Rex Van Zant

Arts Commission staff via teleconference: Emily Hellmuth

Note: Prior to the start of the meeting, Vincennes University president Dick Helton was introduced by Commissioner Linda Levell. President Helton welcomed the Arts Commission to Vincennes and to Vincennes University, and spoke briefly about the University.

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Commission Chair Trevor Yager convened the meeting at 9:20 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Consent Agenda.** Commissioner Nancy Stewart moved to adopt the consent agenda, consisting of the agenda for this meeting and the minutes from the December 13, 2013 meeting of the full Commission. Commissioner Gil Cárdenas seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. **Chair and Executive Committee Report.**

A. Chair's Report

1. Governor's Office Issues. Mr. Yager reported that Commissioners Jon Ford and Linda Levell have been re-appointed to second terms on the Arts Commission.

2. Mr. Yager reported that he and Executive Director Lewis Ricci recently met with the Indiana Bicentennial Commission, and presented four ideas for Arts Commission participation in the 2015 – 2017 Indiana Bicentennial celebration (handout attached). The proposed areas of participation include: a) designation of certain project grants as “bicentennial”; b) designation of the 2015 – 2016 Governor’s Arts Awards as “bicentennial”; c) permanent establishment of arts in the state parks; d) establishment of a grant category for “Indiana Masterpieces”. The ideas will be brought again before the Bicentennial Commission in April for approval.

Mr. Ricci asked the Commission to consider the location for the 2015 – 2016 Governor’s Arts Awards. The past several programs have been held outside of the Indianapolis area, in partnership with communities such as Bloomington, Muncie, and South Bend. Mr. Ricci thinks it would be appropriate to bring the program back to Indianapolis for the Bicentennial celebration, but would like to have that matter decided as soon as possible so that other communities can be notified. Commissioner Sherry Stark moved to designate Indianapolis as the host city for the 2015 – 2016 Governor’s Arts Awards. Commissioner Pam Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. Mr. Yager reminded everyone that March 24 – 25 will be National Arts Advocacy Day in Washington, DC. Mr. Ricci and Commissioner Karen Ellerbrook will be among the Indiana delegation going to the event. The delegation has scheduled meetings with the staffs of all of Indiana’s congressional members, to discuss federal funding for the arts.

4. Mr. Yager announced that the annual election of Arts Commission officers will occur at the June 2014 Quarterly Business meeting. He requested that the Commission determine how the nomination process should proceed. Commissioner Al Rent moved to designate the Executive Committee as the Nomination Committee for election of officers. Commissioner Allen Platt seconded the motion. The motion passed.

5. Financials. Arts Commission Deputy Director Michelle Anderson presented a handout (attached) showing the FY 2014 budget, current through February 28. She has adjusted the budget to include the recent 1.5% holdback mandated by the office of the Governor.

6. Resource Allocation Review. Mr. Ricci reminded the Commissioners that a Strategic Plan review had been accomplished during the December, 2013 meeting of the full Commission. Several priorities had been established, along with strategies for accomplishing them. He explained that a review of Commission resources is now appropriate, to insure that funding and manpower are focused toward the stated priorities. He asked that an ad-hoc committee of Commissioners be formed to review the Commission’s resources and recommend changes if needed. He requested that the process begin as soon as possible and be completed before the next legislative session convenes and agency budgets will be recommended for approval.

7. Mr. Yager reported that the annual Executive Director performance review is being conducted by the Executive Committee and will be completed soon.

4. Executive Director's Report.

A. Staff update. Mr. Ricci reported that the Arts Commission will again have a Governor's Summer Intern, and that candidates have been reviewed for the position.

B. Mr. Ricci reported on several Technical Assistance/Capacity Building workshops that are scheduled to occur this year. The first is called "Leveraging Creativity – Entrepreneurial Tools for Artists Workshop and Intellectual Property Symposium" and will be held at the Eiteljorg Museum and the Indiana State Museum (handout attached). Others include "Trustees and Directors Short Course" to be held in August, and the third "Economic Development Colloquium" with Ball State University. Arts Commission Director of Programs Kristina Davis gave a brief update on the current Economic Development Community Consultancies that are under way; six communities are receiving full consultancies and four communities are receiving follow-up consultancies.

C. Other Program and Research Updates

1. Arts Commission Community Development Manager Sarah Fronczek reported on the recent state-wide Poetry Out Loud competition. The state finals were held in February, with Emma Libersky from Plymouth High School being selected as the winner. Seventeen schools participated in the event. Ms. Fronczek will accompany Ms. Libersky to the national final competition in Washington DC in April.

2. Mr. Ricci reported that the sculptor who created the award statuettes for the 2013 Governor's Arts Awards, William Galloway, is donating six large-scale replicas, which will be installed in all of Indiana's designated Cultural Districts. Plans are being finalized for the installations and unveilings.

3. Mr. Ricci reported on progress being made in the arts education pilot study being conducted by Prof. Bob Sabol of Purdue University. He is gleaning results of records in the Crawfordsville school system. He will be invited to attend either the June or September meeting of the full Commission to deliver a report on his work.

4. Mr. Ricci presented a slide-show (copy attached) showing results gleaned from various recent surveys among grant panel reviewers and community arts organizations. The graphs reflect the relative importance of several organizational issues such as board development and fundraising, and compares results to the perceived challenges within the organizations to succeed in those areas.

D. National Partnership Updates

1. Mr. Ricci reported that Arts Midwest will be presenting an exhibition titled “The Art of George Morrison” at the Eiteljorg Museum in Indianapolis, opening March 29. David Fraher, Executive Director of Arts Midwest, will attend the opening and host a pre-opening reception on March 28.

2. National Association of State Arts Agencies (NASAA). Mr. Ricci reported that long-time NASAA Executive Director Jonathan Katz has announced his retirement.

3. Mr. Ricci reported that six Commission staff will be attending the 2014 Americans for the Arts national conference in Nashville, Tennessee on June 13 – 15.

4. Mr. Ricci reported that a new chair for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has been nominated by the President. She is Jane Chu, who received a doctoral degree from Indiana University – Bloomington.

5. Committee Reports.

1. Programs, Grants and Services Committee. Committee chair Nancy Stewart presented a handout (attached) summarizing the latest meeting of the committee. Arts Commission Community Development Manager Becca Hopson gave a brief report on the number of applicants for various grant categories currently open, and announced when the review panels will be meeting in April and May. The applicants whose review scores qualify them for grants will be presented for approval at the June meeting of the full Commission

2. Committee on the Future. Committee chair Jon Ford presented the minutes of the most recent meeting of the committee (attached). Mr. Ricci presented a slide-show of the new proposed Arts Commission logos and tag-lines developed by MSK advertising. An in-depth discussion followed, and recommendations were made for the next meeting with MSK.

Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) titled “Indiana Arts Advancement Vision”. The document is intended to prompt discussions of long-term goals for the Arts Commission. Of particular interest are the areas of education, communities, grant programs, state parks, and individual artists/artisans.

6. Regional Arts Partners Update. Susan Mendenhall from Arts United of Fort Wayne, the current president of the Regional Arts Partner consortium, gave a brief review of the most recent meeting of the RAPs and their activities for Arts Day at the Statehouse.

7. Old Business. Ms. Ellerbrook offered thanks to all who helped schedule meetings with members of Congress for national Arts Advocacy Day.

8. **New Business.** The next meeting of the Arts Commission will be on June 20 at the Indiana Government Center in Indianapolis.

9. **Closing Remarks.** Mr. Yager thanked Commissioner Linda Levell from Vincennes for hosting the meeting-eve festivities and arranging for the meeting to be held at the Red Skelton Performing Arts Center. A round of applause from the Commission echoed Mr. Yager's remarks.

10. **Adjourn.** Mr. Rent moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Micah Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.